

WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

Friday, May 22, 1846.

Democratic Nominations.

FOR GOVERNOR,
JAMES B. SHEPARD,
OF WAKE COUNTY.

NEW-HANOVER COUNTY CANDIDATES.

FOR THE SENATE,
WILLIAM S. ASHE,
FOR THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,
THOMAS H. WILLIAMS,
EDWARD D. HALL.

To Correspondents.—F. J. S. Your esteemed favor has been received. It can't be helped. People will help themselves. "Sic vos non vobis mellificatis, apes!"

J. A. B. We have these first essays. Try again. Diffidence should be one's companion, not master. Yet it is such an exotic in its way, and so particularly rare in this climate, we prize the plant too highly to expose the flower.

NEW-HANOVER CANDIDATES.

The Democratic candidates, whose names appear at the head of our paper, will address the people of New Hanover County at the following places and on the following days: Rocky Point, 29th May, Holly Shelter, 30th " South Washington, 1st June, Piney Woods, 2d " Long Creek, 3d " Moores' Creek, 4th " They will endeavor to visit the remaining districts of the county, previous to the day of election. Captains of the above districts, if convenient, will confer a favor on the candidates by calling out their respective companies on the above stated days.

The War with Mexico.

In another column we spread before the readers of the Journal, the latest news from our gallant little army in Texas. We congratulate them and the country, whose honor they have so nobly redeemed, on the events of the 4th inst. Things are now taking the right turn. We would almost say that we rejoiced at the first news from the seat of war, for we knew what must follow. The spirit of the country has been roused, and fearful will be the retribution.—On every side accounts reach us of the assembling of citizens, eager to participate in the toils and share the glories of the field. The destruction of Matamoros opens a new era in the history of this Republic, and it depends upon the continuance of this war, whether that is still to be bright and glorious, or marked by embarrassments and disunion. We call upon the authorities at Washington to be speedy in their doings. Let an overwhelming force be concentrated upon the borders, and let them march at once to the capital. The war will not be over, until Mexico itself is taken, and that event will happen too late if long delayed. The military spirit, than which nothing is more dangerous to a Republic, and which at this moment is absolutely necessary to prompt and vigorous action, must not too long be indulged, as it should never be wholly repressed. And we must act with energy and decision for another reason, and that one most vital to our own interests: that we do not involve others in the quarrel, and extend the field of battle West and East from Mexico to both oceans. We have nothing to fear from decision—every thing from inactivity.

How stands North Carolina?

From every town, village and hamlet throughout our territory, accounts are being received of the assemblages of the people, the voting of supplies and the organization of volunteers for the service of the country. Let not the old North State, to whom the councils of Texas have so long been indebted for virtue and intelligence, be backward now that her soil is invaded. Texas is as much allied to us by compact as Maine or Massachusetts, and more so in blood and feeling. Our native sons are among her first citizens, and from the blood of our children, has she reaped the harvest of liberty. Call your public meetings, ye honest, stout-hearted yeomanry. Let speak the mighty voice of the people. Democrats, our own chosen President has warned us of our country's danger, and she who, even before your birth, protected your infancy, needs the strong arm of your manly years. Lists have been opened in Wilmington, numbers have already rallied at the call. Before many days, they will be on their way to the field, and let us hope, joined by crowds of their countrymen, from every section of the State.

English Intrigues in Mexico.

Should the war now being waged on our South-western frontier be successful or not, in obtaining what we deem its true object, namely: indemnification for the past and security for the future, together with all costs and expenses, there is one point upon which we must stand on surer ground, and that is the existence of an undercurrent of English influence in the affairs of that unhappy nation.

A recent correspondent of this paper stated that most of the mines of the Mexican States were worked by British subjects, and we believe the fact to be well authenticated. We are informed that nearly one-third of the whole revenue of the country goes into the pockets of these gentlemen. How else can it be than that they must exercise a most potent influence in the action of the government; and knowing these very men to be the creatures of English ambition, and opposed to the United States in every social, moral and political principle, as for this reason we would not be called in, time of peace, to time of war, some reason must ultimately bring us

into conflict. We verily believe that this whole disturbance, singular as it may seem, has grown out of the Oregon question. England has been too quiet lately for nothing. "While we serve our sovereign in the South, let us not forget his interests in the North." If we are to give up to 49° let us take care our boundaries be not still further curtailed to the Columbia. And let not any threats of her interference in our difficulties with Mexico prevent us from refusing any further concessions. The doctrine has gone forth,—the solemn faith of the American government has been pledged to the assertion of our exclusive right to regulate our own concerns in the manner we best please. Let no foreign interference be suffered on this continent to involve us in still farther difficulties. The protest of England may be expected to our intended march to the gates of Mexico, and she will contend for the right of shipping her specie independent of the blockade, but we hope no threats will deter us from the rigid enforcement of belligerent rights, and the firm determination to require from neutrals the duties appertaining to that character. We must watch and prepare.

Rail Road—Public Meeting.

For a long time a project has been conceived, which, if carried into effect, must be eminently conducive to the prosperity of this town and the vicinity. Situated as we are at the terminus of the great Northern route, and a large portion of our community deriving the means of subsistence directly and indirectly from the Rail Road leading to this place, its continuance and welfare is intimately connected with the common interests of the whole community. If, taking advantage of our inactivity, the citizens of Raleigh construct a link of communication with the South Carolina Rail Road, Southern travellers, instead of passing through Wilmington, bringing with them all those vast benefits which accompany the institution of a popular and extensive Rail Road, will be attracted to the interior, and the ultimate result would inevitably tend to the ruin of the Wilmington and Weldon line of communication, and interfere, in a great measure, with the rising prosperity of this town and the whole eastern section of the State.—Every one who has travelled North and conversed with passengers on the route, knows that that portion of the journey lying between Wilmington and Charleston, connecting the Weldon Road with the South, is regarded with universal repugnance, and that it has long been a matter of surprise that some line of Rail Road communication has not been erected, which would render so much exposure and inconvenience unnecessary.

The people of Raleigh, taking advantage of this state of public feeling, are already agitating the question, and men of capital there have expressed their willingness to forward the undertaking. For the purpose of preserving, if possible, by anticipatory measures, the usefulness and indeed the existence of the Weldon Road, and securing unimpaired its benefits to this town and vicinity, a large and enthusiastic meeting of our citizens was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday evening last. The principal questions submitted, concerned the expediency and the practicability of erecting a Road to connect at the South Carolina line, with another from Camden, S. C., or some other adjacent point in that State, which it is understood, in that event, the South Carolinians are ready to construct.

We regret that another engagement prevented our attendance. Among the speakers, we notice with pleasure the names of Hon. E. B. Dudley, W. A. Wright and Lucien Holmes, Esqrs. The latter of these gentlemen, in a speech remarkable for good delivery and substantial argument, exposed the vast benefits of the proposed measure to all classes of the community. Mr. Wright sustained his views with considerable spirit, and Gov. Dudley presented to the consideration of the meeting many new and important facts, shewing in a clear, concise and skillful manner, the entire practicability of the Road, the necessity of its construction and the favorable disposition of the Post Master General to the Weldon and Wilmington Company. Gov. D., has on this occasion, taken an active part in the prosecution of a measure vitally connected with the prosperity of Wilmington, and we hope, with all its well-wishers, that a project which thus commands in its support the suffrages of so many experienced and talented individuals, whose interests are identified with that of the town, and who can meet, on this occasion, and join without prejudice, in consultation for the public good, will not be suffered to fall, if the industry and enterprise of our citizens will be sufficient for its support, and that is saying all. The Road must and will go through. In the language of the resolutions, "it ought to be built, and it shall be built."

CAPT. WALKER, of the Texan Rangers, may take our hat. He seems to be a noble and daring fellow, and deserves promotion. If it be any satisfaction to him to know it, we can assure him he would be made a Colonel at least, if we had the appointment. He has immortalized himself, and is, we hope, a good Democrat, for he "will do, if he does not die."

"The Republican."—We have received the first number of a new paper just started in Washington, N. C., bearing the above title, edited by W. B. Gulick, Esq., assistant teacher in the Washington Academy. We wish the editor success in his new enterprise, and would here remark that it becomes the Democratic party in the 8th district to sustain him. If we are to judge from the first number, "The Republican" will be of vast service to the party. It is courteous towards its opponents, but firm in promulgating Democratic doctrine. Such a paper the people of Washington need.—such a paper they now have, and such a paper they should by all means sustain.—P.

James B. Shepard.

There is something about this name which we know will attract the attention of our country friends, in spite of them, and with somewhat of the spirit of the quack doctors in the Northern papers, who head off their pills with \$500 reward, we take the liberty of premising what we have to say about our candidate, with some remarks about our paper, and we ask our good whole-souled Democratic friends, in the country, what do you say to increasing its size? Just look at it, gentlemen, these short columns and this narrow space are a reproach to Democracy, whose truths should be unfolded in broad sheets, and clear, open, honest looking type. The Italian bachelor in Boccaccio complained, "Questa e' troppo gran casa a si poco famiglia." [what a big house for so small a family.] One glance at our political family and another at our house will satisfy any reasonable man we are far more to be pitied. "Sent before their time into this breathing world, scarce half made up," as many of them unavoidably are, we yet love our bantlings, and want them to look well in public.

There is little reason to question that as Mr. Shepard is the regular, he will shortly be the only candidate of the Democratic party in the coming election. No one of our readers who have perused the elaborate article we had the pleasure of spreading before them last week, from our valued correspondent, Senex, can enter in a doubt that he is abundantly qualified by nature and education for that post in which we mean to place him in August. Let not this be considered an idle boast. North Carolina has known Whig misrule too long, not to be eager for the change. Wherever our candidate has appeared he has awakened the enthusiastic, cheered the desponding, and added new converts to the faith of Republicanism. Well may our brethren of the Chronicle and the Register tremble, for as the application of fire calls into life the hidden inscription, the zeal and fidelity of the Democratic presses have awakened the dormant energy and enthusiasm of the people. We tell these gentlemen that the principles of our party, as they are founded not merely in the interests of North Carolina, but in that of the whole country, not in the temporary but the permanent welfare of the people are identified with its progress, and will become stronger in its prosperity. From every quarter we receive assurances that the efforts of Mr. S. to place these considerations in their proper light before the people of the State, have not been unattended with success. All we now want to ensure success, is union in the ranks. Men may have preferences, but parties may never. Candidates must be available, that principles may triumph. You may like this man and I may like that, but it is not more essential that one should succeed than that either should be gratified? We are sure these remarks are unnecessary to ourselves, but they may teach something to others. We know that in August the stout-hearted Democracy of the State, in every section, will no longer be divided—linked not merely shoulder with shoulder, but heart with heart, they will share as they must achieve, a common victory.

The Whig Press and the Administration.

Fortunate alike in present position and future prospect, the unanimity with which Mr. Polk and his party were called into office, has been equally equalled by the general favor with which his measures and policy have since been received. A spirit of forbearance and compromise, unknown for many years, seems to have filled the presses and the leaders of the opposition. Unanimity to an extent almost dangerous in a free country, distinguished the passage of the leading measures of the present administration. By suffrages, by votes, and by contentance, the Whigs attested in their favor the confidence of the country. We have to congratulate ourselves, that in the selection of the eminent citizen who now fills the Executive chair, the democratic party have succeeded so well in attaining the true object of party division—the good of the whole country and the satisfaction of its citizens. In the free and hearty support we gave Mr. Polk we proposed to ourselves no other object. In the remarks we felt called upon to make concerning the eminent gentleman who opposed him, we challenge the most prejudiced to point to a single line which, although written at the moment when we felt most convinced of the startling importance of the struggle, was at all inconsistent with the dignity of our own position, or a proper regard for the feelings of Mr. Clay. In a political contest, the necessity of awakening the enthusiasm of the electors, sometimes leads to comments and exposures too often unworthy the speaker and the audience. Many things are said which men know to be false. Many things are done which had been better avoided. But such is the unfortunate state of the public mind, the confusion of circumstance, and the excitement of the passing delirium, that we feel inclined with an almost pardonable venality to excuse the offender in the purity of his motives. Parties are necessary, we know; and the lines of division must be strongly drawn, to prevent them from being obliterated or forgotten. But we should never cease to reflect, that it is unworthy a generous and liberal mind, in public or in private, to descend to indecency in language, or misconduct in expression. Our duty to ourselves as a man, and our duty to the public as a citizen and a journalist, may often call for an expression of opinion, whose effect will be injurious to the reputation or influence of those against whom it happens to be directed. But we may be warm without intemperance, and faithful without fanaticism, steadfast in the support of our own opinions and what we believe to be the true interests of the country, at the same time we hope ever to preserve a proper regard for the feelings and notions of others; particularly

if they should hold prominent positions before the country.

We have been led to make these remarks from the perusal of a most unbecoming and illiberal attack on the Administration in the editorial columns of the New York Evening Express, of the 12th instant. There are some men who cannot be severe without losing their temper. To whom the coarse slang of vulgar abuse seems stronger & more grateful than the most polished sarcasm or biting irony. It is the unfortunate part of an able but ill regulated mind to be often its own worst enemy. With all the power, but less than the skill of the blind giant, its blows recoil and prove at last the most potent element in its own destruction. Such men are to be pitied. There are others who increase the difficulties of this painful situation, by a malicious chafing, which knows neither bounds, decency, nor moderation; as industrious as the bee, but like her, unable to see very far in advance, they work very hard, are very well fed, and very useful, and they can sting too, as we have seen, but they are ever despaired. The Ev. Express and the National Intelligencer will permit us to remind them from their own experience, that sacrifices like these, at the shrine of party, are never repaid. Their duty, as prominent organs of the Whig interest, may lead them to oppose us. And without a talented and organized opposition, the liberties of no country are safe; but let them not forget, there is a higher duty to themselves, and to truth, which should prompt us all, far as possible, to bring not the jealousies and rancor of narrow personality into the public councils and debates of an intelligent and reflecting people.

Steamboat Excursion.—We have marked last Thursday with a white bean, for on that very day we were fortunate in being one of the most delightful parties that has recently sailed from this port and happy town. Our lively correspondent will see from the state of our columns, that his interesting account of all that was said and done on that occasion, must be omitted to day. We agree these "re-unions" are death to old bachelors, "civilly" speaking, and we are certain that if rewards were now distributed in the old Roman fashion, Captain SMITH would come in for a large bounty.

ORGANOGENY.—In Inaugural Dissertation for the degree of M. D., by Myddleton Michel, Medical College, South Carolina, Charleston, 1846.

We have received the above pamphlet, and will give it a more extended notice in our next.

CING MARS par M. Alfred Compe DeVigny, Paris et Bruxelles, 1845.

We like occasionally to toss up the papers which adorn our editorial table, and from the mass of Extras and political documents, "black spirits, white and grey," draw forth from its hiding place some precious little volume, like the one now before us. There is something refreshing in turning over these pages after the toil of the day is done, when the soul, maddened by tales of bloodshed and ruin, of sacked towns and human slaughter, feels again the gentle influence of polite literature, and over its faculties, like the bewitching harmony of a dimly remembered lay, recalling it again to pleasures long untasted, and feelings unknown in the rude walks of political science. It is with such an exultation of animating enjoyment that we now perform a duty we had long promised the importer of the work, whose name heads this article. The author, DeVigny, has lately become rather popular in this country, from his contributions to French literature. Unlike the dreaming Sue, whose best productions are sullied with a shameful indecency, no merit however lofty, no talent however exquisite, can mitigate or conceal the writings of Mr. DeVigny are remarkable for a philanthropy, without affectation, and a generous magnanimity of kindness no passion can obscure or ambition destroy. He seeks not to inflame his readers but to instruct them. He aims not for the fleeting applause of sectarian rancor, but for that nobler reward which, as Lord Camden said, "posterity alone can pay." The object of the work is under the form of a romance, containing a minute history of the rebellion of Cing Mars during the administration of Cardinal Richelieu, to present to the reader, "Un traite sur la chute de la feodalite, sur la position exterieure et interieure de la France au dix-septieme siecle, sur la question des alliances avec les armes etrangeres, sur la justice aux mains des parlements ou des commissions secretes et sur les accusations de sorcellerie," and the author justly concludes, that though this "n'est pas ete le peut-etre; le roman le fut." The same theme has been done in our own country by Cooper and Irving, who, under the form of historical novels, have given to our literature, contributions of rare and surpassing merit. This species of composition is rapidly assuming the place it should in the hands of the scholar and the hearts of the people. We congratulate our *Littrati* that the deluge of trash which, under the form of "light reading," fairly threatened a short time since, to submerge us, is fast declining beneath nobler allusions of more permanent and substantial beauty. The style is concise but clear, and harmonious without labor. There is a strength without too much brevity, and learning without pedantry or effort. We regret that our limits will not permit us to give the reader a few extracts, but in this perhaps we might set up our own taste to the injury of the author, and by drawing too much attention to a certain portion, detract from the residue of the work. If there is any fault we could discover, it is that the author has not been pleased to favor us with some more specimens of the lyric poetry of that era. These might have been easily incorporated with the text, and would lend a new charm to the graphic power of his descriptive genius.

We commend the work to the lovers of French literature, and hope that this little notice will have the effect of calling attention to a production of merit, and possibly, too, supplying a deficiency in our transplanted literature, which we have had more than once occasion to regret.

FROM THE ARMY.

From our Texas Correspondent.
CAMP AT TRENTON, DE SANTA ISABEL.
TEXAS, May 5, 1846.

MY DEAR SIR: Glorious! intelligence has just reached us from the works opposite Matamoros.

I have this moment seen Major Brown's official report. He says:—"About 3 o'clock on the morning of the 3d inst., the batteries of the town (Matamoros) opened upon us—their fire was returned by our heavy guns (18 pounders) until we silenced two of their three batteries, and dismounted all the guns in the latter but one and one mortar. The firing was continued by them for three or four hours, but with little effect, as we had but one man (a sergeant) killed. As our ammunition is not abundant, I directed the firing on one side to cease. On the night of the 3d, the firing from the town continuing, I directed the officer of artillery to fire on the town, respecting the colors flags, and that night *hot shot* were fired, but owing to our want of *furnaces* to heat them properly, little effect was produced. During the heavy cannonading on the 3d, our unfinished curtain (a portion of the fortification) was completed, and one six pounder placed to repel a land attack." &c. &c.

This is indeed glorious! news, and every eye brightened upon its announcement.

In order that you may understand the state of things here, I must give you an idea of the present position of the forces.

The depot of the whole army is at this place, and upon it, of course, the Mexicans were expected to make an attack in force. Gen. Taylor having completed the fortifications opposite Matamoros, and hearing that 6000 of the enemy had crossed the river nine miles from this place, he left his camp near that town on the afternoon of the 1st of May, and by a forced march reached this camp on the following morning, leaving Major Brown with the 7th Infantry, and Capt. Lord's company of heavy, and Lieut. Bragg's company Light Artillery, to defend the works at Matamoros.

On the morning of the 3d inst., the firing from the town on our works commenced as stated above, and was distinctly heard here. Our scouts reported the chapparel between us and the Fort, full of Mexican troops, they having closely invested the place on this side before the firing commenced, and our spies returned and reported that it was impossible to reach the Fort, as every avenue to it was closed by Mexican pickets. Capt. Walker of the Texan Rangers, was then dispatched with orders to reach Maj. Brown, if possible. This morning Capt. W. came into our camp, with the intelligence above, and amid the hearty congratulations of the whole Army. He has indeed performed a most valuable service, and intitled to the thanks of every true American heart.

The mail goes off in a very few minutes, but I must stop to say what we all feel is true—that many of the Texan Rangers are invaluable in this service. They are acquainted with the country, and having been prisoners in the hands of the Mexicans during the Texan wars, they know the character of that people perfectly; and as you may well imagine, they have no love for them—on the contrary, they hold every Mexican an enemy of their race, and act accordingly. Truly yours.

P. S.—Volunteers from Texas and New Orleans are expected here hourly. We move to the relief of Maj. Brown's command very soon, and doubtless a battle must be fought in order to open the communication with him. Judge ye.

From the Mobile Daily Advertiser, Extra, 12th inst.

LATER FROM THE ARMY.

Arrival of the Steamship New York!
VICTORY! VICTORY! GLORIOUS VICTORY! Point Isabel Relieved! Matamoros Reduced to Ashes! The American Army Triumphant! 700 Mexicans Killed! A General Blockade of the Mexican Ports Ordered!!!

After a painful suspense of several days, news reached us of a blow being struck by the Americans. The prowess of our brave soldiers has made the perfidious Mexicans bite the dust. A portion of the Mexican army, now withered in death agony in the American Eagle. Victory peaches upon our banner! Honor to Major Ringgold of the 2d Artillery, and his brave companions for their defence of the American Camp—Cheers, nine times nine, for our country, and its free institutions!!!

[From the N. O. Com. Times.] It is with feelings of heartfelt gratitude and the deepest satisfaction that we take up our pen to record the brilliant result of the first great blow struck by General Taylor and his glorious little army. The fame of the American arms has been signally vindicated. With an inferiority of forces so disproportionate as to have caused the deepest anxiety for General Taylor and his gallant band, they have gained a great, a glorious, a noble, a most triumphant victory. Seven hundred Mexicans were left dead on the field of battle—Matamoros is reduced to ashes—Point Isabel is relieved. Such are the immediate results of this magnificent exploit.

The reception of this gratifying news will cause the National pulse to vibrate from one extremity of the Union to the other. The thunder of the artillery which was fired last evening, in honor of this gallant achievement, will roll, respectively, from State to State—from city to city—from village to village—from hamlet to hamlet—until it reverberates from the rock girt cliffs of Maine, and the mountains of Vermont, echoing a Nation's gratitude.

"The battle is not to the strong, nor the race to the swift." An overruling Providence has mercifully preserved our little army, apparently devoted to destruction, and scattered the Mexican host like chaff before the wind. It is proper that some public demonstration of rejoicing should be evinced to commemorate this auspicious commencement of the war. N. Orleans ought to take the lead, as being most directly interested in the success of the

American arms. What say our citizens to an illumination, or a public thanksgiving?

The news reached this city last evening, at 10 minutes before 9 o'clock, and it would be impossible to describe the enthusiasm with which it was received. The population appeared to be suddenly quivered—the streets presented one living mass of human beings—joy was depicted on every countenance, and one universal prayer of thanks ascended on High. We promptly issued an extra containing the pith of the news, and now hasten to subjoin all the particulars we have received before our readers.

By the arrival of the Steamship New York, Capt Phillips, which came up late last evening, we have received the following gratifying intelligence from the Galveston News:

We have been kindly furnished by Capt. Phillips of the steamship New York—which has just arrived—with the following highly interesting and important news. We publish, literally from Capt. Phillips's report.

The following report is from Capt. Walker of the Texan Rangers, who had arrived on the 5th inst. at 4 P. M. from the entrenchment opposite Matamoros.

We learn that an engagement had taken place between the U. S. and Mexican forces. The particulars, as far as we can learn are as follows: Gen. Taylor, on the evening of the 3d inst., left the entrenchment with a detachment of U. States' troops, for the purpose of opening a communication between Point Isabel and the entrenchment. On the morning of the 4th, the Mexicans, taking advantage of his absence, at daybreak opened a heavy cannonade on the entrenchments, which was gallantly returned by the U. S. troops, and in thirty minutes silenced the enemy's batteries and reduced the city of Matamoros to ashes.

Morning of the 6th.—A gentleman who has just arrived from the field of battle, informs us that the slaughter among the Mexicans was tremendous; that upwards of seven hundred lay dead on the field of battle, and that the number of houses left in Matamoros was not sufficient to accommodate the wounded.

According to accounts received at Point Isabel, the number of Mexicans in and about Matamoros, were estimated at ten thousand men, and expecting reinforcements were daily expected.

Gen. Taylor was to leave Point Isabel on the 6th inst., with a detachment of troops, determined to open a communication between Point Isabel and the Army opposite Matamoros, which has for some days past been cut off, and only effected in one instance by the valiant and undaunted Walker, of the Texan Rangers, whose horse was shot from under him in the attempt, and the loss of six men.

Santiago and Isabel are now under Martial Law—every citizen compelled to do Military duty.

On the morning of the 6th, previous to the departure of the New York, heavy cannonades were heard and supposed to be another attack from the Mexicans on the U. S. troops opposite Matamoros.

Great excitement prevailed at Point Isabel & Santiago up to one o'clock, P. M., when the New York took her departure. Arrived at Santiago on the 6th inst. a ship, Decatur from N. O. U. S. schr. Flirt will leave in a day or two for N. O.—Steamer Monmouth left on the 5th bound to Arkansas for the purpose of bringing every man capable of doing duty, to the camp at Santiago.

McKister and Radcliff are the names of two among the six men who were killed by forcing their way through the Mexicans to the U. S. Camp.

The subjoined account is from the Galveston Citizen:

Gen. Taylor proceeded with the main body of the army in order to secure Point Isabel, which was menaced, and open the communication, leaving only 700 or 800 men in the camp opposite Matamoros. The army proceeded without interruption, but the Mexicans thought the diminished forces in camp offered a favorable opportunity for its capture—attacked it and were repulsed with severe loss—some say several hundred. The loss on our side was not so great but very insignificant. Our batteries were opened on Matamoros, and reduced the place to ruins, or nearly so.

This was on the 3d, and the fighting continued until night. Walker the well known Texan soldier and spy, then took forty men to carry the news to Gen. Taylor at Point Isabel, during the night. He lost six men on the way and had his horse shot under him, but got in.

Our troops are in fine spirits. Gen. Taylor was to leave with a large force on Thursday morning, for the camp opposite Matamoros.

The New York had this news from the Cincinnati, which came out over the bar to take off the troops carried down. Firing was heard when the New York left.

The main force of the Mexicans is probably on this side of the river.

The Texan schr. Santa Anna has been despatched from Brassos Santiago, with communications from Gen. Taylor for the American squadron off Vera Cruz.

The only written information we have from the seat of war comes from Capt. Symonds, late of the Revenue service of Texas, now in the employ of Gen. Taylor. It is dated May 4. Capt. S. says:

"The news was brought to Point Isabel by our friend Walker, of Major Taylor's command. The Mexican made the attack on our works after General Taylor came down here. The fight continued the whole day. The U. S. batteries knocked down Matamoros, killing two or three hundred Mexicans—they killing only one of our men by the explosion of a shell. The works were so well completed the Mexican shot could not injure them.

Capt. Symonds has written us that he will furnish a detailed account of the action, and such other information as he can collect, by the next vessel.

GEN. TAYLOR.—We learn that when Gen. Taylor left Point Isabel, to return to the entrenched camp opposite Matamoros, there was not the slightest doubt entertained that he would have to cut his way to his entrenchments, through vastly superior numbers of the enemy, who were known to be posted in large force among the almost impassable thickets of clapper on the road, with a determination to cut him off, if possible, in his attempt to regain his other forces. The number of the Mexicans is entirely vague and uncertain, though, all the statements agree estimating them at not less than ten thousand, while many accounts put their numbers at fifteen or twenty thousand.

All accounts agree that the Mexican forces are rapidly flocking in from all quarters. How many have crossed the river could not be told, though it seems but reasonable to presume that a large part of their forces will be brought into requisition to dispute the march of Gen. Taylor. They could not but see the importance of cutting him off, and would doubtless employ all their advantages of local knowledge, skill in horsemanship, and all their acknowledged resources of stratagem to accomplish their object. Gen. Taylor anticipated a formidable and desperate opposition to his march, but determined to accomplish it or perish. It seems, therefore, every way reasonable to suppose that a decisive and bloody battle was fought on the 7th inst., and we